

# **Lisa M. Luptowitz**

Southern Nevada Water Authority  
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## **SUMMARY**

Over 20 years experience in environmental compliance and permitting. Project manager and technical lead for preparation of environmental compliance documents and permitting for federal, state, local and private projects. Conduct environmental analyses and obtain necessary permits and authorizations to ensure compliance with federal and state environmental regulations, including National Environmental Policy Act, Endangered Species Act, National Historic Preservation Act, and Clean Water Act. Supervise a diverse team of resource specialists. Establish cooperative relationships with federal and state regulatory personnel and other project stakeholders, and represent the agency or client in public meetings and presentations.

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## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**1999 – Present**                      **Southern Nevada Water Authority**  
100 City Parkway, Suite 700  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89106

### Division Manager, Environmental Resources

Supervise 15 professional and administrative staff in two working group teams for environmental planning and biology. Prepare short and long term staffing plans, prioritize workload and job assignments, complete performance evaluations, perform staff counseling, and conduct other administrative functions. Prepare annual budgets and track expenditures for division budget.

Manage and provide technical input on the environmental compliance and permitting for Clark, Lincoln, and White Pine Counties Groundwater Development project. Serve as SNWA lead in coordinating with the Bureau of Land Management and 16 cooperating agencies on development of an Environmental Impact Statement for National Environmental Policy Act compliance. Prepare project applicant materials, including development of project and alternative descriptions and applicant environmental measures. Assist in the development of and participate in hydrological and biological technical review committees for development of reports and technical information. Review and comment on interim drafts to ensure accuracy and regulatory compliance. Conduct public outreach and provide public presentations. Negotiate schedules and contractor budgets. Supervise contractors performing biological and cultural field studies and investigations. Assist in the development of a Programmatic Agreement for National Historic Preservation Act compliance. Participate in informal consultation with Fish and Wildlife Service for Endangered Species Act Section 7 compliance, including preparation of draft Biological Assessment and other consultation materials.

Provide leadership and decision-making to resolve crucial SNWA environmental compliance issues, including negotiating with other agencies on project stipulations and environmental requirements and determining necessary levels of compliance and environmental permits. Guide staff in the review and comment on external projects that may conflict with SNWA projects or resources. Lead staff in coordinating and resolving conflicts with other SNWA departments and divisions, to ensure overall SNWA environmental compliance needs are met.

Provide environmental compliance policy interpretations and recommendations to senior management for SNWA projects and resources. Coordinate with legal counsel to determine appropriate and defensible approach to environmental compliance issues on SNWA projects.

#### Senior Environmental Planner

Supervised a team of up to 9 environmental planners in completing environmental studies and obtaining rights-of-way and environmental permits. Ensured that environmental analyses were completed for SNWA projects to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act, Endangered Species Act, National Historic Preservation Act, Clean Water Act, Federal Land Policy Management Act, and other environmental regulations. Supervised the acquisition of rights-of-way for SNWA projects across federal lands managed by Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, National Park Service, and U.S. Forest Service.

Served as primary SNWA contact for coordination with Bureau of Land Management for preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement for groundwater development infrastructure project in central Nevada. Coordinated with internal staff to prepare applicant materials in support of the environmental process, including right-of-way application, applicant Plan of Development, applicant environmental protection measures, and other information. Prepared and provided testimony concerning environmental compliance for groundwater development project in state water rights hearings.

#### Environmental Planner II

Conducted policy reviews for federal regulatory and legislative proposals relevant to SNWA projects and interests. Tracked external project proposals with potential effects on SNWA projects or interests. Prepared formal comment letters and attended public meetings.

Prepared and supervised contractors in the preparation of environmental compliance documents, including two Environmental Impact Statements' for SNWA water resource development. Participated in biological field surveys, and supervised biological, cultural, and environmental contractors in the completion of surveys and reports for agency projects. Gave public presentations at local town board meetings, planning commission meetings, and project-specific public meetings. Represented SNWA on multiple species habitat conservation plan committees and in professional organizations.

**1990-1999**

**Parsons Engineering Science**  
100 West Walnut Street  
Pasadena, California 91124

### Environmental Scientist

Environmental Compliance and Permitting Manager for \$2 billion capital improvements projects. Completed an Environmental Impact Statement and three Environmental Assessments, supervised contractors and technical staff, conducted public meetings, responded to public comment, and coordinated with federal agencies. Obtained Clean Water Act Section 404 water quality permits and supervised water quality sampling and reporting. Developed a National Historic Preservation Act programmatic agreement and implemented cultural resources planning, surveys, and site mitigation. Obtained Endangered Species Act Section 7 Biological Opinion, and supervised implementation of the terms and conditions. Managed project-related environmental monitoring and compliance during project construction, including supervision of staff and subcontractors. Coordinated with state and federal agencies on project inspections. Prepared monthly, bi-annual, and annual reporting for state and federal agencies, in accordance with environmental permits.

Prepared environmental impact statements/reports for domestic and international projects, including military housing, U.S. Air Force satellite launches, regional airport expansion, marine oil terminal expansion, deep space microwave antennas, highway projects, wastewater treatment facility, and international golf course development. Conducted field surveys, and prepared sections of environmental reports on geology, paleontology, geologic and seismic hazards, cultural resources, environmental management, safety, and hazardous waste. Responsible for schedule and budget controls, client and agency coordination, data collection, technical editing, and document production.

**1986-1990**                      **Earth Sciences Department**  
**University of California at Riverside**  
900 University Avenue  
Riverside, California 92521

### Teaching Assistant

Developed curriculum for laboratory portion of undergraduate class. Prepared lab materials, presented lectures, and graded lab assignments. Supervised and assisted students in geologic mapping field classes.

### Research Assistant

Supervised lab assistants and organized microfossil preparation lab. Developed safety procedures for acid and heavy liquid processing. Conducted quantitative microfossil investigation involving statistical computer analysis. Completed extensive multi-library research.

**1988**                              **Riverside County Planning Department**  
4080 Lemon Street  
Riverside, California 92502

### Engineering Geology Intern, Planning Department

Assisted in field investigations and reviewed geotechnical reports. Prepared geology section of Environmental Impact Report. Developed geologic mapping database for the county.

## **EDUCATION**

**1990 and 1988**      **University of California at Riverside**  
900 University Avenue  
Riverside, California 92521

### Master of Science in Geological Sciences

Master's Thesis: Ostracode fauna and lithofacies of the Lower Devonian (Pragian) Kobeh Member, McColley Canyon Formation, central Nevada.

### Bachelor of Science in Geological Sciences

## **PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS**

2010. SNWA Groundwater Development Project. Presentation to Nevada Legislative Public Lands Committee Rural Nevada Tour.

2009. Southern Nevada Water Resources Briefing. Presentation to International Right-of-Way Association Las Vegas Chapter.

2008. Southern Nevada Water Resources Briefing. Presentation to Southern Nevada Association of Land Surveyors.

2007. The Intersection of Environmental Compliance and Water Rights Processes on the Clark, Lincoln, and White Pine Counties Groundwater Development Project. Co-presented with Dan Netcher at the Nevada Water Resources Association Annual Conference.

2007. Planning for a Sustainable Nevada. Presentations to International Right-of-Way Association Las Vegas Chapter and to Lyons Club of Las Vegas.

2006. Water Acquisition and Water Conservation. Presentation to Southern Nevada Chapter of American Planning Association.

2004. Drought and Effects on SNWA's Water Resources. Presentations to Clark County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan Implementation and Monitoring Committee, Virgin River Conservation Partnership, and to Nevada Board of Wildlife Commission.

2001. Endangered Species and Habitat Planning in Clark County. Presentation to Lincoln County Public Lands Commission.

1999. From Planning Through Construction: Successfully Working with Sensitive Species. Presentation at American Water Works Association Conference.

1992. Integration of Ostracode and Conodont Biostratigraphies of the Kobeh Limestone (Pragian) (Lower Devonian) in the Roberts Mountains, Central Nevada. Oral presentation at Geological Society of America, Rocky Mountain Section Annual Meeting.

1990. Biogeography and Affinity of Lower Devonian (Pragian) Ostracodes from Central Nevada. Published in Paleobios, Volume 13.